

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAIRO 00592 181047Z

15

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 RSC-01 SSO-00

/025 W

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R 181000Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1505

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 0592

DAMASCUS PLEASE PASS SENATOR PERCY

STATE PLEASE PASS TOM FLAHERTY (PERCY'S OFFICE)

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OREP (PERCY, CHARLES)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: SENATOR PERCY PRESS CONFERENCE

1. IN HIGHLY FAVORABLE FRONTPAGE COVERAGE OF PERCY'S PRESS CONFERENCE THURSDAY, JAN 16, CAIRO NEWSPAPERS UNANIMOUSLY HIGHLIGHTED SENATOR'S FAVORABLE VIEW OF SADAT AS MAN OF PEACE CONCERNED WITH HIS NATIONS'S WELFARE. NEWSPAPERS ALSO EMPHASIZED PERCY'S STATEMENTS ON THE "INEVITABILITY" OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF FINAL SETTLEMENT AND POSSIBILITY OF CREATING PALESTINIAN STATE PROVIDED THAT SUCH STATE WILL NOT THREATEN SECURITY OF NEIGHBORS. IN ADDITION TO THESE COMMON LINES, AL-AHRAM QUOTED PERCY'S ANSWER TO QUESTION ON SADAT'S SCHEDULED U.S. VISIT THAT SADAT "WILL BE WARMLY WELCOMED AS FRIEND AND PROMINENT LEADER OF FREE WORLD". AL AKHBAR REFLECTED PERCY'S WARNING THAT FIFTH ME WAR "WILL NOT ONLY BE DEVASTATING TO PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED, BUT ALSO DAMAGING TO WORLD". PAPER ALSO QUOTED STATEMENT THAT U.S. ADMINISTRATION (FORD, ROCKEFELLER AND KISSINGER) CONSIDER ME PRIORITY ISSUE, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 00592 181047Z

THAT "U.S. FRIENDSHIP WITH BOTH EGYPT AND ISRAEL WOULD ENABLE

IT TO PERFORM ROLE USEFUL TO BOTH PARTIES." AL-AKHBAR ALSO
REFERRED TO BROAD PLANS TO RECONSTRUCT EGYPTIAN ECONOMY.
AL-GOMHOURIYA EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF TIME ELEMENT AND
POINTED OUT PERCY'S CAUTION THAT "OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEACE MAY
BE LOST IF NO PROGRESS IS ACHIEVED ON ALL FRONTS AND NO STEPS
FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED LANDS ARE TAKEN."

2. NO EDITORIAL COMMENTED APPEARED IN JAN 16 PRESS.
MAESTRONE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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